The families of two martyrs have not been given the above benefits because of the cases filed in the Courts by their dependents.

In addition to the above entitled benefits, applications from 475 wives/ next of kin of Kargil martyrs were forwarded to the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas for allotment of oil product agencies under the special scheme meant for them. 17 of these applicants have subsequently expessed their unwillingness for the allotment of the agency to them. Out of remaining 458 cases, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas has approved agencies to 433 dependents.

Various State Governments had also announced monetary and other benefits for the dependents of Kargil martyrs, the implementation of which falls within the responsibility of the State Governments. This information is not centrally monitored.

(b) and (c) As mentioned in reply to the answer to part (a) above, all war widows of Kargil, excepting two, have been given their entitled dues. In two cases, namely (i) Smt.Suman, wife of martyr Gnr. Perminder Singh and (ii) Major (Dr.) Rajshree Gupta, wife of martyr Major Vivek Gupta, the payment will be made depending upon disposal of court cases.

**Death of pilots and civilians in MiG crashes**

6. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have compiled the latest figures of the total number of Indian Air Force (IAF) pilots killed in MiG crashes since 1971;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of civilians killed in these MiG crashes;

(d) the loss in terms of money suffered by the IAF pilots; and

(e) whether any concrete measures have been taken to improve the situation and if So, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A total of 157 Indian Air Force Pilots have been killed in MiG crashes since 1971-1972 to 2004-2005 (up to 24th November, 2004).

(c) A total of 40 civilians have been killed in these crashes.

(d) The regularised financial loss in respect of these MiG aircraft crashes is Rs. 17,71,70,60,026.00.

(e) A continuous and multi-faceted efforts is always being undertaken in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued.

Constant interaction with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Original Equipment Manufactuers (OEMs) of concerned countries are also pursued to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. Besides, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

**Physical tests of women aspirants to the Army**

7. SHRIMATI N.P DURGA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unmarried women candidates between the ages of 21 to 27 are made to undergo physical test, including gynaecological tests by male doctors for the past ten years as part of the recruitment process in the Army; and

(b) the remedial measures proposed to get this sensitive issue affecting women resolved?

THE MrNISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) As far as possible, lady doctors examine female candidates, but due to availability of limited number of lady gynaecologists, it is not always possible for lady specialists to conduct the medical examination of female candidates at all stations. However, examination by a male gynaecologist, where necessary, is invariably carried out in the presence of a female nurse. Only visual examination to rule out any congenital abnormality is carried out and no internal examination is conducted.

Procedure of medical examination of female candidates has been reviewed by Armed Forces Medical Services and is being modified to ensure that in future gynaecological examination of female candidates is peformed by lady doctors.